

**ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE**

The invention relates to a chiral nematic display configuration, typically in liquid crystal displays, comprising a chiral nematic display of controllable planar structure and focal conic structure, characterised by the chiral nematic liquid crystal material being between two transparent substrates having conductive electrodes, the material being between two elliptical polarizers and there being an optical reflector. The invention achieves a high contrast black-and-white display. The displays in the embodiment are first and second optical mode configurations of the black-and-white chiral nematic displays.

[Figure 1]